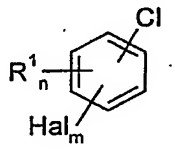
Claims:

1. A process for the preparation of substituted halogenated anilines from substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzenes which comprises
   a) reacting a substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzene selectively with an imine in the presence of a transition metal catalyst complex and a base to form an N-aryl imine; and
   b) hydrolyzing the N-aryl imine; and
   c) isolating the substituted halogenated aniline.

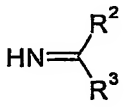
2. The process of claim 1 wherein the substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzenes has the structure



wherein

R^1	is halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_2-C_6 alkenyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl C_1-C_6alkyl or aryl;
Hal	is fluorine or chlorine;
m	is 1 or 2; and
n	is 1 or 2.

3. The process of claim 2 wherein the imine has the structure



wherein

R^2, R^3	are aryl.

4. The process of claims 2 or 3, wherein

R^1	is halogen or C_1-C_6-alkyl;
m	is 1;
n	is 1 or 2.

5. The process of claims 2 to 4, wherein the substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzenes is 1-chloro-3,5-difluorobenzene.

6. The process of claims 2 to 4, wherein the substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzenes is 1,3,5-trichlorobenzene.

7. The process of claims 2 to 4, wherein the substituted halogenated 1-chlorobenzenes is 2,6-dichlorotoluene.

8. The process of claims 1 to 7, wherein the base is an alkoxide salt.

9. The process of claim 8 wherein the alkoxide salt is sodium *tert*-butoxide.

10. The process of claims 1 to 9, wherein the transition metal catalyst complex is a platinum, palladium or nickel complex.

11. The process of claim 10, wherein the transition metal catalyst complex comprises a chelating ligand.

12. The process of claim 11, wherein the chelating ligand is a alkyl or aryl derivative of a phosphine or bisphosphine.

13. The process of claim 11, wherein the transition metal catalyst complex is selected from $Pd_2(dba)_3$/dppf or $Pd_2(dba)_3$/dppb.

14. The process of claim 13, wherein the transition metal catalyst complex is $Pd_2(dba)_3$/dppf.

15. The process of claim 13, wherein the transition metal catalyst complex is $Pd_2(dba)_3$/dppb.